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News Release

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SOUTH CAROLINA EGG PRODUCTION DOWN

SOUTH CAROLINA'S laying flocks produced 96 million eggs during July, down 3 percent from last year, according to the USDA-NASS, South Carolina Field Office. Production totaled 73 million table eggs and 23 million hatching eggs. The number of layers averaged 4,225,000 birds, down 9 percent from 4,644,000 a year ago. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,272 eggs, compared with 2,132 in 2007.

UNITED STATES egg production totaled 7.60 billion during July 2008, up slightly from last year. Production included 6.49 billion table eggs, and 1.12 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.05 billion were broiler-type and 64 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during July 2008 averaged 336 million, down 1 percent from last year. July egg production per 100 layers was 2,262 eggs, up 1 percent from July 2007.

SOUTH CAROLINA BROILER HATCHERY PRODUCTION DECREASES

During the month of June, SOUTH CAROLINA'S broiler hatcheries produced 19.5 million chicks, down 1 percent from last year's 19.7 million chicks.

The UNITED STATES broiler-type chicks hatched during July 2008 totaled 807 million, down 2 percent from July 2007. Eggs in incubators totaled 651 million on August 1, 2008, down 3 percent from a year earlier.